

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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R 310710Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8682

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 6165

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, AU, MY

SUBJ: RAZAK REAFFIRMS THAT AUSTRALIAN MIRAGES WILL STAY

REF: K.L. 6047

1. DURING TOUR OF BUTTERWORTH AFB DEC 30, PRIME MINISTER RAZAK TOLD PRESS THAT THERE IS ROOM AT THE BASE FOR BOTH MALAYSIAN AND AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE UNITS. RAZAK SAID AUSTRALIAN MIRAGES WILL STAY AT BUTTERWORTH BECAUSE THE AIR BASE IS LARGE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE THEM AND NEW RMAF F-5E'S, AND BECAUSE MALAYSIA "STILL NEEDS AUSTRALIAN ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE."

2. REGARDING SOUTHEAST ASIAN ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY, RAZAK SAID NEUTRALITY IS "A LONG WAY AHEAD" AND
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THAT "CONCEPT IS STILL IN ITS FORMATIVE STAGE." BESIDES, HE

ADDED, THERE ARE STILL FOREIGN BASES IN THAILAND, PHILIPPINES,
AND SINGAPORE "THAT WILL HAVE TO BE WITHDRAWN GRADUALLY."

3. COMMENT: RAZAK STATEMENT ON MIRAGES IS FIRST PUBLIC
COMMENT BY GOM ON RESULTS OF AUSTRALIAN DEFENSE MINISTER BARNARD'S
VISIT (REFTEL). RAZAK'S COMMENTS ON ZONE OF PEACE TEND TO CON-
FIRM OUR SOUNDINGS THAT GOM HAS FOR TIME BEING PUT NEUTRALIZATION
ON BACK BURNER AND IS NOT PRESSING FOR EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF
FOREIGN BASES IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.
UNDERHILL

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NNN

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